

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD UN EAID

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S SPEECH TO UN SPECIAL SESSION

1. WITH HEADLINES AND EDITORIALS MAINLY DEVOTED TO MIDDLE EAST, SECRETARY'S SPEECH TO UN SPECIAL SESSION RECEIVED SCANT PRESS ATTENTION. TIMES WAS ONLY QUALITY DAILY TO GIVE IT FRONT PAGE COVERAGE AND THERE WERE NO EDITORIALS DEVOTED TO IT. SEVERAL REPORTERS COMMENTED THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES UNLIKELY TO BE ENTHUSIASTIC OVER US PROPOSALS.

2. TIMES, GUARDIAN, FINANCIAL TIMES AND DAILY TELEGRAPH CARRIED SHORT ITEMS SEPTEMBER 2 REPORTING SECRETARY'S SPEECH TO THE UNSS. MOST SIMPLY REPORTED HIGHLIGHTS OF TEXT WITH SUMMARY OF FIVE FUNDAMENTAL AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY. TELEGRAPH STATED SPEECH WAS "NOTABLY CON-

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CILIATORY IN TONE" AND CONTAINED "PAGE AFTER PAGE OF

SOOTHING WORDS PLUS SOME CAUTIONARY ADVICE." FT PIECE LED OFF BY DRAWING ATTENTION TO WARNING OVER FURTHER OIL PRICE INCREASES AIMED AT OPEC MEETING IN VIENNNA LATER THIS MONTH. IT MENTIONED NEW DEVELOPMENT SECURITY FACILITY BUT PLACED MOST EMPHASIS ON USG INSISTANCE THAT LARGE PART OF NEW RESOURCES WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM PRIVATE SOURCES ASSISTED BY IFC. IT ENDED WITH COMMENT THAT CALL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSUMER-PRODUCER FORUM FOR EVERY KEY COMMODITY AND BUFFER STOCKS FALLS SHORT OF THIRD WORLD'S DEMANDS FOR DEALING WITH GROUP OF COMMODITIES TOGETHER AND FOR FINANCING OF BUFFER STOCKS FROM COMMON FUND.

3. REPORTS IN GUARDIAN (JANE ROSEN) AND TIMES (FRANK VOGL) WERE ALSO CRITICAL OF ELEMENTS OF SPEECH. GUARDIAN STATED "NEW AMERICAN POSITION STILL DOES NOT COME CLOSE TO MEETING THE POOR NATIONS DEMANDS AND THE PROSPECT NOW IS FOR CONTINUED CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TWO WORLDS." IT DID HOWEVER RECOGNIZE CHANGE IN COMMODITIES POLICY AND SUGGESTED THAT "MANY OF THE DEVELOPING ARE EXPECTED TO RESPOND FAVORABLY." TIMES CRITICIZED FUNDING FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT SECURITY FACILITY AS "MERE DROP IN THE OCEAN" COMPARED WITH NON-OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES TOTAL BOP DEFICITS. IT ALSO EXPRESSED FEAR THAT NEW FACILITY WOULD ONLY COMPETE WITH EXISTING AID SCHEMES FOR THE LIMITED RESOURCES AVAILABLE.

RICHARDSON

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